

NDE Bulletin – AYP and PLAS
October 14, 2011

The Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Decisions and the list of schools eligible for ESEA Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grants (SIG) because they meet the ARRA definition of persistently lowest-achieving schools (PLAS) will not be available on Monday with the embargoed data or released to the public on Wednesday with the opening of the State of the Schools Report.

We anticipate having the AYP decisions on the Preview State of the Schools Report 2010-11 (found in the NDE Portal under Data Collections) by Tuesday, October 18, 2011. These have changed for many schools since the preliminary results were posted in September. In addition to data changes requested by districts, there was a change in the process. For the 2010-11 school year, districts were no longer required to submit the Student Snapshot template. The Student Snapshot contained the status of students with disabilities at the end of the school year and was used to determine which students were to be included in the Special Education group for AYP purposes. In the preliminary AYP decisions, the status of students with disabilities was determined from the Special Education Snapshot. This had the unintended consequence of including any student who had been in Special Education at any time of the year in that subgroup rather than only those students who were in Special Education programs at the end of the school year. To revise the process to be as close as possible to our guidance, the formula was changed to look at each individual student from the Special Education Snapshot to determine if they were to be included in the Special Education group based on an existing “exit date” from Special Education services. The comparison dates for the Exit Date used were the starting dates for the testing – January 31st for NeSA Writing and on March 28th for the other NeSA assessments. The AYP process now checks to see the status of Special Education students at the start of the assessment window. This provides a more accurate count of students who should be included in the Special Education group for AYP purposes.

The identification of schools eligible for ESEA Section 1003(g) School Improvement Grants (SIG) depends on having a completed AYP process. The list of schools will be available on the Preview State of the Schools Report 2010-11 by late next week. Districts will receive individual email notification and all districts can review this data before it is added to the State of the Schools Report and released to the public.